



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: February 6, 2014

To: Chair Elizabeth Glidden and Vice Chair Alondra Cano

Referral to: Intergovernmental relations Committee

Subject: City of Minneapolis 2014 Legislative Agenda

Recommendation: Approve the following amendment to the 2014 Legislative Agenda. On page 13 under Municipal Waste and Recycling add:

- **Increased state funding for the state solid waste block grant program commonly referred to as SCORE.**

Previous Directives: The City of Minneapolis legislative agenda includes a provision related Municipal Waste and Recycling.

Department Information

Prepared by: Gene Ranieri with assistance from Hennepin County staff

Approved by: _____

Presenters in Committee: County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin and IGR staff

Supporting Information

Since 1989 Minnesota counties have received state funding to operate solid waste programs. The major source of the funding is the solid waste management tax. Mixed and non-mixed solid waste are subject to the tax. Mixed municipal solid waste is defined as garbage, refuse, and other solid waste from residential, commercial and community activities that the waste generator aggregates for collection. Non-mixed solid waste is waste material that is collected, processed and disposed of separately from mixed solid waste. The tax rate for mixed solid waste collected from residential generators is 9.75% of the bill for waste management services. For commercial generators the rate is 17%. The rate is lower for non-mixed solid waste.

The solid waste management tax is governed by Minnesota Statutes 297H. The statute directs that 70% or \$33,760,000 whichever is greater of the tax revenues generated to be deposited in the environmental fund and 30% to be deposited in the general fund. In 2013 approximately \$73,000,000 was disbursed to the two funds. The environment fund received approximately \$51.0 million while the general fund received \$22.0 million.

The environmental fund also receives revenues from several licenses and fees administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The uses of the environmental fund are subject to the legislative appropriation process. Among the programs supported by the

environmental fund are SCORE grants. In state fiscal years 2014 and 2015 the SCORE program is appropriated \$14.2 million in each year of the biennium. The environmental fund supports many of the MPCA's programs and also transfers funds to the remediation fund. In state fiscal year 2013 \$15.0 million was transferred to the remediation fund.

SCORE funds as illustrated in the attached charts have not increased from 1990 to 2013.

Additional information regarding SCORE can be accessed at:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/data/score/score-reports-archive.html>